

November
2007

NEWS FROM C'VARC

President's Message by Neil Waybright, AF6CD

"Disasters? Who's got disasters?"

Southern California seems to have its fair share of challenges, including the ever-present threat of earthquakes, the seasonal threat of fire, followed by floods. All we need now are some locusts....

Every year we have two busy seasons in ham radio. The springtime and early summer is where we schedule events getting us ready for disasters. This is followed in late-summer by real disasters, as if on queue. If you aren't familiar with what I am talking about, take a look at the club calendar at the bottom of the web site main page. We start out supporting various civic and organizational activities designed to get us out and communicating in the field. The Amgen Tour of California Bike Race, Coyote 4 play, the CLU Crop Walk, the Westlake Street Fair, Cruising the Conejo, and many more activities dot our calendars and get us working dedicated communication support.

We were blessed this year that the fires in our area never got to the magnitude they reached in San Diego County. Like our neighbors to the South, we could have been faced with trying to support and care for tens of thousands of displaced people. There were over 1500 homes

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November Speaker: John Haslett

Join explorer and author John Haslett [on Thursday, November 15] for an evening filled with images and adventure tales highlighting two expeditions he led in the late 1990s. In his new book, *Voyage of the Manteño: The Education of a Modern-Day Expeditioner* (St. Martin's Press), Haslett recounts how he built a series of giant rafts, similar in design to Thor Heyerdahl's famed Kon-Tiki, and then sailed them on the open sea. Haslett's expeditions were sponsored by ARRL, Yaesu Radios, Hustler Antennas, and many others, and were filled with classic ham radio adventures. An excerpt of *Voyage of the Manteño* is featured in the January [2007] issue of National Geographic Adventure.

John Haslett has spent the last fifteen years leading expeditions and researching the ancient cultures of Pre-Columbian Ecuador. In 1995, with the help of an isolated community of Ecuadorian mariners, he built a 30,000-pound, full-scale replica of an ocean-going raft used by the ancient Manteño people, and then voyaged on the open sea for thirty-eight days. Haslett was elected to The Explorer's Club in 1998, and later that year he flew the Club's flag on his second raft, voyaging for a total of eight-five days on the Pacific. His expeditions have yielded large amounts of technical data and practical knowledge about the Manteño people and their coastal trading network, and in 2000 Haslett teamed up with noted archaeologist Dr. Cameron McPherson Smith to publish "Construction and Sailing Characteristics of a Pre-Columbian

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destroyed, tens of thousands of homes were evacuated, including pets, horses, livestock and other complications that made it an epic event for them. We should be looking at what went on, how events unfolded, and how some things that should have happened did not. We need to study what went right, learn from, and capitalize on those successes. After that we need to take a hard look to see what went wrong and strive to find some mechanisms to prevent the same mistakes from being made here.

As with any giant operation such as this, there are real communications problems. It is ironic looking back that it is always difficult to get detailed and accurate records of the events transpiring, and decisions as they were being made and communicated. As an ex-sailor, I grew used to logging everything of importance. The more hectic things got, the more important logging became. This is not merely CYA or being pedantic. It is a critical piece of being able to learn from your past operations and make successive improvements in your performance over time. It was also a critical part of turn-over between two watch-standers. Since we were usually on port-and-starboard watches, you just had to read the log from when you were last relieved up to the present and you had a good grasp on what happened while you were off watch.

This is one of the things that the change from RACES to ACS is trying to address. By teaming hams and non-hams together, we are more likely to have a well-informed team that is communicating like it should, and keeping the records that it needs to. I hope that if we ever suffer a disaster the size of the S.D. County fires (or heaven forbid – something worse), that we are well prepared and have enough trained and prepared volunteers able to meet the needs. The emergency coordinators in each of the areas are always looking for more help, even if you think you are limited in your ability to help.

Since virtually all of the emergency communications are VHF and UHF, any license class has the needed privileges, and equipment requirements are not exotic. A handheld or mobile with a decent antenna (such as a hand-made J-pole) is sufficient. The exotic things like NVIS HF, packet and such are pretty well addressed by fixed equipment in the emergency operations centers. We need people to staff the sites, walk the streets, and communicate. One of the things the FIRENET teams were helpful in addressing in San Diego was in spotting and reporting looters. I don't know that anyone had guessed that would be the contribution that they would be called upon to make, but it was an important one. Talk to Ken Larson (the Area 2 EC) or Rick Tate (the Area 8 EC) at a club meeting. They would be glad to explain more about how you can help.....

See you on the air,

Neil AF6CD

Board Positions

As a reminder of the nominations from last month's meeting, the slate as nominated was:

President	- Greg Lane, KD7SDW
Vice President	- Tom Stough, WØUFC
Secretary	- Mary Ho, KI6COG
Treasurer	- Roy Deschene, KE6UMW
Public Relations	- Jeff Reinhardt, AA6JR
Technical	- Rick Barrett, KE6DKF
Operations	- No nominee identified
Newsletter Editor	- Neil Waybright, AF6CD
Education	- Karl Moody, AE6TO
Social	- No nominee identified
Member-at-large 1	- Hugh Bosma, AE6YC
Member-at-large 2	- No nominee identified

This is just the list of nominated candidate that were identified at the meeting. There is not yet competition for any of the seats, but we would love to see that. If you feel you could do a better job than I can at Newsletter Editor, feel free to run for that spot. The same applies for any other board position. There are three spots empty, and one of those, the Operations Chair,

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is important to the activities of the club. Ken has held the job for several years and being the ACS EC for Area 2 is keeping him so busy he needs to step down. Please help us identify a good candidate for this role! It is important.

I covered the duties and responsibilities of all of the officers last month so I won't repeat that now. Any member of the club, including a new ham can easily handle being a member-at-large. That would fill one gap. Someone with decent organizational skills or who enjoys steering a committee would love the operations job. You can draft teams of people to help you with the operations and truly see the "many hands make light work" metaphor in action. This is the way Field Day is usually handled.

Please show up at the November meeting and vote for the leadership team that will run your club this next year. Your club will benefit the entire year for wise choices made that night. You will enjoy the fact that we are having a great speaker as well.

Thanks,

Neil, AF6CD

Electronics Recycling in T.O.

by Pete Heins, N6ZE

The Fall 2007 issue of Waste Management's "Refuse Review" (which serves residents of Thousand Oaks) provides useful information concerning FREE recycling of batteries and electronics.

Household batteries (i.e. AA, AAA, C, D, button) can be turned in at the T.O. Library, Newbury Park Library, T.O. City Hall, and the Gobel Senior Center during business hours. Now you don't have to 'sneak' them into regular trash or await a big community recycling day!

FREE electronics recycling can be done at

three locations within Ventura County, BUT the most convenient place is at Goodwill Industries at the West side of the Sears parking lot at the Janss Mall. On a daily basis, the facility is open from 7AM until 6PM (7PM on Saturday & Sunday). "Limit of 125 pounds or three working or non-working computer monitors/televisions per month." Three gold stars to "Refuse Review"!

2007 Event Calendar

- Nov 15.....CVARC Meeting
- Nov 24.....TRW Swapmeet
- Dec 4.....CVARC License Classes End
- Dec 8..... CVARC Holiday Party
- Dec 9..... FCC License Exam at CVARC
- Dec 29.....TRW Swapmeet

Please submit suggestions for additional dates to:

af6cd@arrl.net

SPEAKER, continued from front page...

"Raft Replica" in the *Bulletin of Primitive Technology*. In November of 2006, he published his memoir of his first decade of exploring, *Voyage of the Manteño: The Education of a Modern-Day Expeditioner* (St. Martin's Press, Nov. 2006). Haslett's call sign during his expeditions was KC5KHA/MM. [See <http://balsaraft.com>]



Hugh Bosma, AE6YC @ Oct. meeting (KI6COG photo)

CVARC Holiday Party December 8

by Jeff Reinhardt, AA6JR

The annual CVARC Holiday Party & Pot Luck will be held Saturday December 8 at the Cameron Center, 288 Greenmeadow Drive in Thousand Oaks, beginning at 5:30 pm.

Plan to join the CVARC membership for an evening of friendship, fun, prizes and our annual "Trash & Treasures" auction that raises funds for worthy causes. Our annual gathering is fun for everyone, especially family members and friends; including those long-suffering spouses who support our hobby and public service activities. This year, there will be even more auction items for the YLs and XYLs in our midst. Be sure to bring a few extra dollars to take part in the fun.

Don't forget the famous CVARC Holiday Raffle – some lucky persons will go home with new radios – An Alinco DX-70 HF+6m mobile accompanied by a 30 amp power supply will be up for grabs, as well as an Alinco mobile 2m+440 transceiver. We'll also award the prize for our "red ticket" raffle participants who bought tickets at club meetings through the year.

We need your help to make the event an even bigger success-

- Bring a guest (spouse, friends, neighbors, ham or non-ham) – this event is built around the warmth of the season
- Please bring a warm dish or dessert to share.
- Consider donating an item to the Trash & Treasures auction
- Join the fun through buying a raffle ticket for the big prizes.

Come celebrate a Happy Holiday season with CVARC!



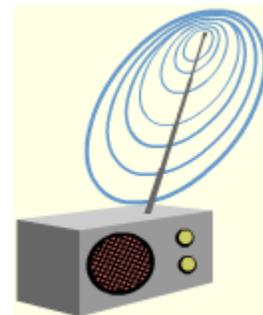
**GRAND PRIZE: Alinco DX-70 Transceiver
+ 30A Power Supply
(need not be present to win)**



**Second Prize: Alinco DR-635T
VHF/UHF Transceiver
(need not be present to win)**



**"Red Ticket" Raffle Prize
(must be present to win)**



Happy Holidays 2007

WRC-07 Week 3: HF Broadcasting Empty-Handed; No 5 MHz Amateur Allocation

As the International Telecommunication Union's 2007 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-07) in Geneva headed toward its fourth and final week, the proponents of additional allocations to HF Broadcasting conceded defeat and accepted that there will be no additional allocations made to HFBC at this conference. The slim possibility of a 5 MHz allocation to the Amateur Service also evaporated late Friday evening, according to IARU Secretary David Sumner, K1ZZ.

HFBC has been a contentious issue at ITU conferences for decades. At WRC-07, additional HFBC allocations between 4 and 10 MHz were supported by 25 European administrations and a few outside Europe but were strongly opposed by every other regional organization. Opposition to additional HFBC allocations was based mainly on a desire to protect military and other government fixed and mobile communications, although some of the administrations that were the most outspoken opponents of HFBC expansion authorize HFBC stations under their jurisdiction to operate out-of-band in the fixed and mobile allocations. Some HFBC proponents predict that the unsatisfactory outcome of the conference on this issue will lead to even more out-of-band broadcasting.

A footnote specifically authorizing administrations to allow amateur stations to use spot frequencies in the 5 MHz range was considered Friday evening (Geneva time) at the Sub Working Group level as one of the last items of business concerning the 4-10 MHz range. The footnote failed to attract sufficient support and was withdrawn from consideration by its sponsor, the European regional organization (CEPT). This has no effect on the administrations that have authorized amateur operations under the no-interference provisions of Radio Regulation 4.4.

On a more positive note for radio amateurs, a secondary allocation of 135.7-137.8 kHz to the Amateur Service was approved on first reading in Plenary on Friday afternoon, November 9. This marks the first time since allocations to radio services began that the Amateur Service has had an allocation below the medium wave broadcasting band. The effective date is not yet set, but is likely to be the date of entry into force of the Final Acts of the Conference. Of course, amateurs must wait until their own administrations authorize the new allocation before they can use it. Some administrations, while not wishing to block the international allocation, have indicated a reluctance to implement it in their countries because of various interference concerns.

Work continues on the agenda for future WRCs, tentatively scheduled for 2011 and 2015. There are many more proposals for agenda items for the next conference than can be accommodated, so only those with broad support are likely to be included. Committee work on the future agendas is scheduled for completion early next week.

Members of the core team of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) continue to attend the relevant meetings and work the halls on behalf of the amateur and amateur-satellite services. Support from numerous members of national delegations remains a vital component of this effort.

On Tuesday evening, November 6, the International Amateur Radio Club, 4U1ITU, held a dinner with a new amateur licensee, ITU Secretary-General Hamadoun Toure, HB9EHT as the guest of honor. There were 43 members and guests present, including WRC-07 delegates from more than a dozen countries -- several heads and deputy heads of delegation among them. The club station is active on the air under the special call sign 4U1WRC.

SOURCE: ARRL Letter, Vol. 25, No. 45 Nov. 9, 2007

San Diego ARES Amateurs Stand Down after Wildfires

With the wildfires in Southern California well on their way to being contained, San Diego area ARES Amateur Radio operators have ceased assisting their served agencies; many hams had been called to action early last week. When the fires began early Sunday morning, October 21, ARRL San Diego Section Emergency Coordinator Jim Cammarano, KG6R, conferred with California Fire VIP Red Flag Coordinator Rich Beisgl N6NJK; Beisgl told Cammarano that local ARES groups were not needed at that time. "A few hours later, I called again and our status remained the same. They assured me that they would call me immediately if they required [assistance from] San Diego ARES. With the Santa Ana winds blowing, the fires had rapidly advanced far beyond the point where volunteer radio operators would be safe in performing such a role," Cammarano said.

Cammarano said that San Diego ARES "first started up an information Net before any concrete news from the mainstream media existed. People were checking in with facts about road closures, traffic congestion and reports on the locations of the fires. Once we were told to deploy by the San Diego County EMS [on Sunday afternoon], I initiated our Web-based automated call-out system that made more than 400 calls in less than five minutes."

Hams were deployed all over the San Diego area, including Mt Palomar... ARRL Assistant SEC Teri Rowe, KI6FKD, a Registered Nurse, was appointed Incident Command nurse, providing a supply of responders available for initial deployment and replacement personnel. "She compiled manpower reports and lined up personnel well in advance to the Medical Operations Center order to deploy. On Sunday evening, she manned three phones and two PCs monitoring the County WebEOC online message boards, keeping us updated with road closures, patient transports and hospital evacuations. She answered questions, reviewing the ICS forms and calling each hospital Incident Command RN or Officer to coordinate deployment of the responders," Cammarano said. "Mark Williams, KF6ZBF, manned the radio room at Kaiser Zion (a local hospital); he assisted an RN onsite who had her radio license, but who needed help. Mike Green,

W6MTG, helped Teri on Tuesday, making calls to our members, all while evacuating from his home."

Many ARES hams were busy serving local hospitals, some working for more than 15 hours, Cammarano said. "Hospitals asked our responders to help get their staff deployed to the hospital to relieve their overworked personnel. At one point, a trauma center was in danger of losing a communications tower. Numerous hospitals were evacuated and patients were transported. We were there as back-up if the critical communications links were broken. As the order to change our status from deployment to standby came, many responders were asked for their contact information in case they were needed again." While many hams did not pass emergency traffic, many communicated critical information regarding the status of other hospitals to the various Incident Commanders at the facilities where they were deployed, Cammarano said. "The hospital staff was thankful for the support from our responders, for many feared that the fire might force the repeaters on Mt Woodson off the air, causing the hospitals' regional radio link to ambulances to fail, resulting in a serious impact of hospitals to prepare for arrival of critical cases or transports to other vital trauma centers in the county."

According to Cammarano, other ARES members volunteered at Qualcomm Stadium; with more than 5000 evacuees, this became the largest temporary shelter in the area. San Diego city officials closed the stadium, home to the NFL's Chargers, to evacuees at midday Friday and cleared the team to play its scheduled Sunday afternoon game there against the Houston Texans...Cammarano expressed his thanks to the amateurs who went above the call of duty to the public and to served agencies: "The San Diego Amateur Radio Community had high visibility to the County of San Diego and the nation; I want to acknowledge their many contributions to public safety. Other EmComm groups protected the citizens of San Diego. This was a community effort and San Diego ARES was part of a greater team who performed our mission to a high level. We had a part to play in contributing to the public safety and welfare of citizens of San Diego and Imperial Counties..." -- *Some information from CNN*

SOURCE: ARRLWeb, October 30, 2007

Ventura County ACS/ARES Times & Frequencies

Area 2 ACS/ARES members are encouraged to check in every Tuesday night at 7:00pm on the Area 2 check-in nets.



Area	Time	Mode	Frequency	Shift	PL	Repeater/Notes
Area 1	7:00-7:30 pm	Voice	147.930	-	127.3	AD6SV
<u>Area 2</u>	<u>7:00-7:30 pm</u>	<u>Voice</u>	<u>146.850</u>	-	<u>94.8</u>	<u>K6AER/Grissom</u>
<u>Area 2</u>	<u>7:10-7:30 pm</u>	<u>Voice</u>	<u>224.700</u>	-	<u>156.7</u>	<u>K6HB</u>
<u>Area 2</u>	<u>7:10-7:30 pm</u>	<u>Voice</u>	<u>449.440</u>	-	<u>131.8</u>	<u>W6EPO/Amgen</u>
Area 2	(Simplex)	Voice	147.555	None	None	Simplex
Area 2	(Backup Repeater)	Voice	147.885	-	127.3	N6JMI "Bozo"
Area 3	7:15-7:30 pm	Voice	147.915	-	127.3	WB6ZTQ
Area 4	7:15-7:30 pm	Voice	149.970	-	127.3	WB6YQN
Area 5	7:00-7:30 pm	Voice	145.400	-	None	N6FL
Area 6/7	7:00-7:30 pm	Voice	147.975	-	127.3	N6VUY
Area 8	7:00-7:30 pm	Voice	146.985	-	127.3	South Mtn.
County	7:30-8:00 pm	Voice	146.880	-	127.3	WA6ZTT
County	6:45-7:00 pm	Voice	52.980	-	82.5	K6SMR
County	7:30-8:00 pm	Voice	224.020	-	127.3	WB6ZTR
County	Before 6:30 pm	Packet	145.710	+	None	Hospital Net
County	(ACS Simplex)	Voice	147.570	None	None	Simplex

Net Control operations for the weekly ACS/ARES Area 2 check-in are run from the ACS/ARES communications center at East County Sheriff Station (on Olsen Road) every Tuesday starting at 7:00pm.

Visitors are welcome and have the opportunity to operate the station. Please contact Gino Spinelli, KI6DJV at (805) 529-6101 if you would like to attend.

ACS members should remember that their ACS card is issued for only two years. When your card is due to expire, please call Jackie at the Office of Emergency Services in Ventura, (805) 654-2551, to renew it.

For questions concerning ACS/ARES, please call the Area 2 Emergency Coordinator, Ken Larson, KJ6RZ at (805) 495-9435 or go to the ACS/ARES section of the CVARC website at <http://www.cvarc.org>.

2007 CVARC Officers

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Social.....	-OPEN-			
Member at Large.....	Jonathan Fox.....	KT6LA.....	(818) 889-1156.....	kt6la@yahoo.com
Member at Large.....	Hugh Bosma.....	AE6YC.....	(805) 498-1987.....	hrbcrb@aol.com



CVARC is recognized by the ARRL as a Special Service Club (SSC). To be a part of the ARRL's Special Service Club program, the club must regularly show that it is actively involved in certain areas, including:

- New Ham Development and Training
- Public Relations
- Emergency Communications
- Technical Advancement
- Operating Activities



Conejo Valley Amateur Radio Club
PO Box 2093
Thousand Oaks, CA 91358-2093

Address Correction Requested

– FIRST – CLASS – MAIL –



CVARC Online

For up-to-date information and back issues of newsletters, please visit the CVARC Web Site at <http://www.cvarc.org>. In addition to visiting the Web site, you may like to join the CVARC Yahoo Group at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/CVARCDiscussion/>

The Conejo Valley Amateur Radio Club is an ARRL affiliated Special Service Club. Meetings are held on the third Thursday of every month, except December. The meeting location is the Community Room at The East County Sheriff Station, 2101 E Olsen Road, Thousand Oaks. Meetings start at 7:30pm with a pre-meeting social and technical assistance session from 6:30 to 7:30pm. Meetings are open to the public, and members are encouraged to bring their friends.

“News from CVARC” is published monthly (on the Monday preceding the CVARC club meeting) by the Conejo Valley Amateur Radio Club, AA6CV PO Box 2093, Thousand Oaks, CA 91358-2093. It is mailed free of charge to all members.

Opinions expressed in articles in this newsletter are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views of the club, its Board, or its members.

CVARC Membership Rates

Visitors are always welcome at our monthly meetings, and we do not pressure newcomers to join. If, however, you would like to support the club and its activities by becoming a member then we will be very pleased.

The simplest way to join (or to renew) is to write us a check bearing your address, and give or send it to our Treasurer. Make the check payable to “CVARC” and please put your callsign and/or email address, if you have one, on the memo line of your check. Name, Callsign, or Address changes may be emailed to the Treasurer.

Current annual rates are: Regular Membership: \$25. Family Membership: \$30. Special discounts are available for; New members just licensed: \$10. Full-time Students: \$10. Regular members renewing for multiple years: \$20/year.